

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2187

To update the supplemental security income program, and to increase incentives for working, saving, and pursuing an education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2003

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. McDERMOTT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To update the supplemental security income program, and to increase incentives for working, saving, and pursuing an education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “SSI Modernization Act
5 of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. GENERAL INCOME EXCLUSION.**

7 (a) INCREASE.—Section 1612(b)(2)(A) of the Social
8 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382a(b)(2)(A)) is amended by

1 striking “\$240” and inserting “\$480 (or, if greater, the
2 amount determined under section 1617)”.

3 (b) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—Section 1617 of
4 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382f) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting “sub-
6 section (b)(2)(A) of section 1612,” after “section
7 1611,”; and

8 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “section
9 1611” and inserting “sections 1611 and 1612”.

10 **SEC. 3. EARNED INCOME EXCLUSION.**

11 (a) INCREASE.—Section 1612(b)(4) of the Social Se-
12 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1382a(b)(4)) is amended by striking
13 “\$780” each place it appears and inserting “\$1,560 (or,
14 if greater, the amount determined under section 1617)”.

15 (b) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—Section
16 1617(a)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382f), as amended
17 by section 2(b)(1) of this Act, is amended by striking
18 “subsection (b)(2)(A)” and inserting “subsections
19 (b)(2)(A), (b)(4)(A), (b)(4)(B), and (b)(4)(C)”.

20 **SEC. 4. RESOURCE LIMITS.**

21 (a) INCREASE.—Section 1611(a)(3) of the Social Se-
22 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1382(a)(3)) is amended—

23 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

24 (A) by striking “and” the last place it ap-
25 pears; and

1 (B) by inserting “, and to \$4,500 on Janu-
 2 ary 1, 2004” before the period; and

3 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (A) by striking “and” the last place it ap-
 5 pears; and

6 (B) by inserting “, and to \$3,000 on Janu-
 7 ary 1, 2004” before the period.

8 (b) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—Section
 9 1617(a)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382f), as amended
 10 by sections 2(b)(1) and 3(b) of this Act, is amended by
 11 inserting “(b)(3)(A), (b)(3)(B),” after “(b)(2)(A),”.

12 **SEC. 5. INFREQUENT OR IRREGULAR INCOME EXCLUSION.**

13 Section 1612(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (42
 14 U.S.C. 1382a(b)(3)) is amended—

15 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$20” and
 16 inserting “\$40”; and

17 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “\$10” and
 18 inserting “\$20”.

19 **SEC. 6. REDETERMINATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL**
 20 **STUDENTS TURNING 18.**

21 Section 1614(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 22 1382c(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(5) If, as of the date an individual attains 18 years
 24 of age, the individual is regularly attending (as defined
 25 in regulations) a secondary school or a local school system

1 is maintaining responsibility for the individual through an
 2 individualized education plan, the individual shall not be
 3 considered to have attained 18 years of age for purposes
 4 of paragraphs (3) and (4) until the earlier of—

5 “(A) the earliest subsequent date the individual
 6 ceases to be regularly attending a secondary school
 7 or participating in such a plan; or

8 “(B) the date the individual attains 21 years of
 9 age.”.

10 **SEC. 7. EXCLUSION OF EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.**

11 (a) **INCOME EXCLUSION.**—Section 1612(b)(7) of the
 12 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382a(b)(7)) is amended
 13 to read as follows:

14 “(7) any amount of any grant, scholarship, or
 15 fellowship received to pay any cost related to attend-
 16 ing an educational (including technical or vocational
 17 education) institution, including room and board;”.

18 (b) **TIME-LIMITED RESOURCE EXCLUSION.**—Section
 19 1613(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382b(a)) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
 21 (12);

22 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
 23 graph (13) and inserting “; and”; and

24 (3) by inserting after paragraph (13) the fol-
 25 lowing:

1 “(14) for the 9-month period beginning after
2 the month in which received, any amount of any
3 grant, scholarship, or fellowship received to pay any
4 cost related to attending an educational (including
5 technical or vocational education) institution, includ-
6 ing room and board.”.

7 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
8 section shall apply to amounts received on or after the ef-
9 fective date of this Act.

10 **SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
12 on January 1, 2004.

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